

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 178821
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: REOPENING OF VAROSHA

REF: A) STATE 171133; B) USUN 2360

1. DURING TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL'S CALL JULY 28 PRIOR TO HIS RETURN TO ANKARA FOR CONSULTATION, ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST REFERRED TO ECEVIT/GUNES JULY 20 STATEMENTS ON REOPENING OF VAROSHA (REF A). VEST RECALLED THAT COUNSELOR NIMETZ HAD RAISED MATTER LAST WEEK WITH ESENBEL AND HAD ASKED IF HE COULD OBTAIN CLARIFICATION FROM ANKARA (REF A).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 178821

2. ESENBEL SAID HE WAS NOT FULLY INFORMED BUT COMMENTED THAT JULY 20 STATEMENT SEEMED TO REFLECT ECEVIT'S LONG HELD POSITION, WAS PERHAPS MADE FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL PURPOSE ON ECEVIT'S LAST DAY AS PRIME MINISTER, AND DID NOT NECESSARILY BIND NEW DEMIREL GOVERNMENT. ESENBEL NOTED THAT OPENING OF HOTEL SCHOOL ON BORDER OF VAROSHA WAS

QTE SMALL MATTER UNQTE . HE OPINED THAT BEST COURSE WOULD BE FOR OUTSIDERS TO IGNORE STATMENTS RATHER THAN PUSH FOR GOT CLARIFICATION WHICH COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND MIGHT TEND TO WORSEN SITUATION ON ISLAND. ESENBEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG HAD GIVEN SUCH AN EXPLANATION TO BELGIUM AMBASSADOR WHO RAISED VAROSHA ON

BEHALF OF EC-9 HE ALSO NOTED THAT UN SECRETARY GENERAL HAD ONLY INQUIRED OF TURKISH PERM REPRESENTATIVE RATHER THAN SENDING PERSONAL MESSAGE OR PROTEST. ESENBEL REFERRED TO GREEK CYPRIOT LETTER OF COMPLAINT AT UN (REF B) AND SAID THAT GOT REPLY TO THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE THAT ACTIONS IN NORTHERN CYPRUS WERE RESPONSIBILITY OF TFSC AND GOT COULD NOT IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON LATTER WITHIN THEIR OWN TERRITORY.

3. VEST TOLD ESENBEL THAT WE COULD NOT IGNORE SUCH STATEMENTS BUT WE UNDERSTOOD PROBLEMS IN PRESSING FOR PUBLIC CLARIFICATION. IN VIEW OF DESTABILIZING ATMOSPHERE SUCH STATEMENTS CREATE, VEST SAID IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS CLARIFICATION REGARDING CURRENT TURKISH POSITION ON VAROSHA. ESENBEL PROMISED TO RAISE MATTER WITH ANKARA. "

4. EMBASSY SHOULD AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY AND AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL IN FOREIGN MINISTRY SEEK CLARIFICATION AS TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 178821

MEANING OF ECEVIT/GUNES STATEMENTS AND AS TO WHETHER DEMIREL GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTING THEM. YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT UNILATERAL TURKISH ACTION IN VAROSHA WOULD AFFECT PROSPECTS FOR EARLY MOVEMENT IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND WOULD CAUSE US CONCERN. WE HOPE STRONGLY THAT ALL PARTIES WILL AVOID UNILATERAL ACTIONS WHICH WOULD GET IN WAY OF SERIOUS AND SUSTAINED NEGOTIATING PROCESS. VANCE

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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